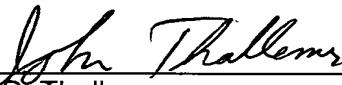


REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

The foregoing amendments to the specification are to place the Abstract on a separate sheet. The amendments to the claims are to place the claims in better form and remove multiple dependencies. No new matter has been added. Should the Examiner have any questions, please contact the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

Novartis
Corporate Intellectual Property
One Health Plaza, Building 104
East Hanover, NJ 07936-1080
(862) 778-7945


John D. Thallemer
Attorney for Applicants
Reg. No. 34,940

Date: January 14, 2005